



## **Course Syllabus**

**Subject:** English Language Arts (Literature)

**School Year:** 2023-2024

**Teacher:** Mr. Alexander

**Grade:** 6

**Email:** ialexander@disk.kh.edu.tw

### **Course Description:**

The course will develop the students' knowledge, confidence and communication skills in all areas of language: reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar and vocabulary. The primary focus in language arts class will be on literature, different writing styles, demonstration of the rules of grammar, and the ability to express yourself orally.

Students can expect to read a variety of literary genres, and what the students read will model the different writing styles we will be working on in class. Writing assignments will include timed responses, essays, critiques, and creative pieces. Vocabulary, spelling, and grammar assignments will also be an important part of this course. Because we are a community of learners, students will work periodically in group situations and present information to their peers in groups or individually.

Please understand that independent at-home reading and writing is expected and is a component of this course.

### **Course Requirements:**

The course will be conducted through lectures, discussions, practice material, projects, and student presentations. In order to experience a successful outcome, students need to:

- ✓ Participate in class discussion, ask questions and contribute ideas, thoughts and opinions
- ✓ Complete each assignment on time
- ✓ Communicate concerns to teachers and ask for help when needed
- ✓ Organize class materials and personal items
- ✓ Keep the study environment neat and tidy
- ✓ Observe all school policies as outlined in the DISK Parent-Student Handbook. This includes arriving at school on time, abiding by the dress code and speaking only English on the school grounds.

- ✓ Observe the school policy on Academic Honesty as outlined in the Handbook. All cases of academic misconduct, such as cheating on tests or plagiarism, will automatically result in a Fail grade for the assignment in addition to any sanctions that may be imposed by the Prefect of Discipline in Administration.

**Note:** If students have difficulty in task completion due to extenuating circumstances, an extension can be requested. Extensions are reviewed case-by-case.

### **Textbooks:**

*Collections : Grade 6 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

*Collections: Close Reader Grade 6 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

*Into Literature: Grammar Practice*

· Novels for Extra Reading (Will be implemented through the Scholastic Reading Program)

### **Class Materials:**

- Stationery (pencil, eraser, pens, whiteout etc)
- laptop computer
- a small notebook for planning (may be shared with other subjects)

### **Assessment:**

Grades will be computed following the school wide policy of Homework, Seatwork and Projects (30%), Tests and Quizzes (30%), Quarter Exam (30%) and Department (10%).

There will be opportunities for students to show their learning through a variety of individual and group assignments/activities. The following assessment tools will be used to evaluate performance:

- End of unit grammar tests
- End of story comprehension tests (including essay answer questions)
- Productive English skills: essays, presentations, debates, story writing
- Quizzes and Quarter Tests/Exams

### **Classroom Rules and Expectations:**

In order to develop both academically and spiritually, students need to adhere to the D'OP STARS Schoolwide Learner Outcomes. Specific attributes include:

- Be organized with class materials, on time, and follow the syllabus
- Set and meet personal study goals
- Complete all tasks
- Communicate in English
- Treat all members of the DISK community with respect

# SUBJECT: Gr.6 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

*(NB: timing and sections may change if deemed necessary)*

Students are expected to complete 6 chapters of the Collections book, divided into 1.5 chapters per quarter. Grammar and Close Reader pages will be taught alongside relevant topics. Some parts in the Collections books will not be taught in order to give students more time to work on writing skills and study for their exams.

## Quarter 1 Tentative Course Content

Week	Topics
Week 2 August 14-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Collections 1 - The Ravine</li><li>● Close Reader - <i>from</i> The Jumping Tree</li><li>● Grammar: Sentence or Sentence Fragment? Run-On Sentences, The Subject, Complete Subjects and Simple Subjects</li></ul>
Week 3 August 21-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Collections 1 - Fine?</li><li>● Close Reader - Choking Under Pressure is Every Athlete's Worst Nightmare</li><li>● Grammar: The Predicate, Complete Predicates and Simple Predicates, The Verb Phrase</li></ul>
Week 4 August 28 - September 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Collections 1 - Life Doesn't Frighten Me</li><li>● Collections 1 - Fears and Phobias</li><li>● Grammar: Review Exercise, Compound Subjects and Compound Verbs, Simple Sentences and Compound Sentences, Kinds of Sentences</li></ul>
Week 5 September 4 - 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Collections 1 - Stuff that Scares Your Pants Off!</li><li>● Close Reader - Face Your Fears and Scare the Phobia Out of Your Brain</li><li>● Grammar: Module Review, Nouns, Pronouns, Demonstrative and Relative Pronouns</li></ul>
Week 6 September 11 - 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Collections 1 - Wired for Fear</li><li>● Write an Informative Essay</li><li>● Grammar: Adjectives, Proper and Demonstrative Adjectives, Module Review, The Verb</li></ul>

<p>Week 7 September 18 - 22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 2 - The Mixer</li> <li>• Close Reader - The Pod</li> <li>• Grammar: Transitive and Intransitive Verbs, Linking Verbs, Helping Verbs, The Adverb</li> </ul>
<p>Week 8 September 25-28 Vacation on the 29th</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 2 - Tribute to the Dog</li> <li>• Close Reader - Can Animals Feel and Think?</li> <li>• Grammar: The Preposition, The Prepositional Phrase, Review Exercise</li> </ul>
<p>Week 9 October 2-6</p>	Exam Week

### Quarter 2 Tentative Course Content

Week	Topics
<p>Week 1 October 11-13 Vacation on the 9-10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 2 - Animal Wisdom / The Last Wolf</li> <li>• Close Reader - Bats!</li> <li>• Grammar: Conjunctions and Interjections, Determining Parts of Speech</li> </ul>
<p>Week 2 October 16-20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 2 - <i>from</i> How Smart Are Animals?</li> <li>• Collections 2 - <i>from</i> Animal Snoops: The Wonderful World of Wildlife Spies</li> <li>• Grammar: Module Review, Prepositional Phrases, Adjective Phrases, Module Review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 3 October 23-27</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write A Literary Analysis</li> <li>• Collections 3 - Mammoth Shakes and Monster Waves, Destruction in 12 Countries</li> <li>• Grammar: Recognizing Complements, Direct Objects, Indirect Objects, Subject Complements</li> </ul>
<p>Week 4 Oct 30 - Nov 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close Reader - Moby Duck</li> <li>• Collections 3 - <i>from</i> After the Hurricane</li> <li>• Collections 3 - Watcher: After Katrina, 2005</li> <li>• Grammar: Predicate Nominatives, Predicate Adjectives, Module Review, Number</li> </ul>
<p>Week 5 November 6 - 14 (spread over two weeks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 3 - The Banana Tree</li> <li>• Close Reader - There Will Come Soft Rains</li> <li>• Grammar: Subject-Verb Agreement, Phrases Between Subject and Verb, Agreement with Indefinite Pronouns</li> </ul>

Week 6 November 20 - 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 3 - <i>from</i> A Night to Remember</li> <li>• Collections 3 - <i>from</i> Titanic at 100: Mystery Solved</li> <li>• Grammar: Other Problems in Agreement, Agreement with Don't and Doesn't, Module Review, Principle Parts of Verbs</li> </ul>
Week 7 November 27 - December 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close Reader - On the Titanic, Defined by What They Wore</li> <li>• Write Narrative Nonfiction</li> <li>• Grammar: Regular Verbs, Irregular Verbs, Tense, Review Exercise</li> </ul>
Week 8 December 4-8	<b>Exam week</b>
Week 9 December 11 - 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catchup time / Christmas activities</li> </ul>
<b>Vacation</b>	Christmas break December 16 - January 3rd

### Quarter 3 Tentative Course Content

Week	Topics
Week 1 January 3 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 4 - My Wonder Horse</li> <li>• Collections 4 - Wild Animals Aren't Pets</li> <li>• Grammar: Sit and Set, Rise and Raise, Lie and Lay, Module Review</li> </ul>
Week 2 January 8 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close Reader - Views on Zoos</li> <li>• Collections 4 - Let People Own Exotic Animals</li> <li>• Grammar: The Forms of Personal Pronouns, The Subject Form, The Object Form, Special Pronoun Problems</li> </ul>
Week 3 January 15 - 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 4 - Eleven</li> <li>• Close Reader - What Do Fish Have to Do with Anything?</li> <li>• Grammar: Module Review, Regular Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs, Irregular Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs, Using Good and Well</li> </ul>

Week 4 January 22 - 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 4 - A Voice / Words Like Freedom</li> <li>• Present and Argument in a Speech</li> <li>• Grammar: Modifiers after Linking Verbs, Review Exercise, Double Comparisons and Double Negatives, Module Review</li> </ul>
Week 5 January 29 - Feb 5th (extended week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 5 - <i>from</i> It Worked for Me: In Life and Leadership</li> <li>• Collections 5 - <i>from</i> Colin Powell: Military Leader</li> <li>• Grammar: A, An / At, Between / Among / How come, Its / It's / Than / Then, That There / Your / You're</li> </ul>
<b>Vacation</b>	<b>CNY break from February 8 - 18</b>
Week 7 February 19 - 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 5 - The First Day of School</li> <li>• Collections 5 - The Road Not Taken</li> <li>• Grammar: Module Review, The Pronoun I / Proper Nouns / Abbreviations, Places and People, Groups, Organizations, and Religions</li> </ul>
Week 8 February 26 - March 1 <b>February 28th is a vacation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close Reader: Community Hero: Chief Wilma Mankiller</li> <li>• Close Reader: The Light - Ah! The Light</li> <li>• Grammar: Objects, Events, Structures, and Awards, Titles, First Words, Proper Adjectives, School Subjects, Module Review</li> </ul>
Week 9 March 4-8	Exam week
Week 1 March 11-15	ITBS tests

#### Quarter 4 Tentative Course Content

Week	Topics
Week 2 March 18 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 5 - Paul Revere's Ride (with Audio version)</li> <li>• Collections 5 On Doomed Flight, Passengers Vowed to Perish Fighting</li> <li>• Collections 5 - Memorial is Unveiled for Heroes of Flight 93</li> <li>• Grammar: End Marks and Abbreviations, Commas in a Series, Commas with Compound Sentences</li> </ul>
<b>vacation</b>	<b>No school March 25 - April 5</b>

<p>Week 3 April 8 - 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Write an Argument</li> <li>● Collections 6 - Black Ships Before Troy, The Story of the Iliad</li> <li>● Grammar: Commas with Sentence Interrupters, Commas in Conventional Situations, Review Exercise</li> </ul>
<p>Week 4 April 15 - 19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 6 - The Apple of Discord</li> <li>● Close Reader - Medusa's Head</li> <li>● Close Reader - Medusa</li> <li>● Grammar: Semicolons, colons, Module Review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 5 April 22 - 26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 6 - Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella Story from China</li> <li>● Grammar: Italics (Underlining), Quotation Marks, Apostrophes, Other Uses of Apostrophes</li> </ul>
<p>Week 6 April 29 - May 3rd</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close Reader - Tom's Meeting with the Prince</li> <li>● Close Reader - The Prince and the Pauper</li> <li>● Close Reader - The Prince and Pauper (graphic novel)</li> <li>● Grammar: Module Review, The Dictionary, Spelling Rules</li> </ul>
<p>Week 7 May 6 - 10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 6 - The Role of Myths in Ancient Greece</li> <li>● Write a play</li> </ul>
<p>Week 8 May 13 - 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Grammar: Prefixes and Suffixes, Plurals of Nouns, Module Review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 9 May 20 -24</p>	<p>Exams Q4</p>